

Durham County Library
Board of Trustees
Minutes, December 18, 2000

Present: Bessie Carrington, Chair; Lauren Alexander, Douglas Beckham, Ann Craver, Carl Hodges, Robert Otterbourg, Nancy Wardropper, Board members; Floyd Hardy, Friends Representative; Joe Bowser, County Commissioner; Dale Gaddis, Pam Jaskot, John McConagha, Library staff.

Absent: Bill Ingram

The regular meeting of the Durham County Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 3:30pm. A motion was made to approve the October 16th minutes with the following change; add Joe Bowser's name to those present. The motion was seconded and approved.

Communications

Bessie Carrington announced that Catherine Petroski has resigned. her position as Library Trustee. Carol Passmore, Business Reference Librarian, sent a note expressing her thanks to the Board for the Trustees Award.

Financial Report

Ms. Gaddis distributed the financial report – there is 58% of the year remaining with 57% of the funds remaining. Personnel money is behind in expenditures due to the large number of vacancies.

Committee Reports

External Relations: Report provided to the Board. The Committee will meet in January 2001.

Planning and Budget: The committee recommended that a systemwide approach be used for the library's strategic planning process based on the Public Library Association's model called "Planning for Results." Separate plans will not be developed for each region. A consultant will be hired to facilitate the process. There will be a Strategic Planning committee, with Board representation.

Members of the Planning and Budget committee will attend the staff budget retreat on January 9th from 9am to noon.

Ann Craver moved to adopt the committee and staff's recommendation to utilize "Planning for Results" as the model for the library's next strategic planning process. The motion was seconded and approved.

Board Development Committee: The committee will address the following areas; what the Board's role is in selecting and evaluating the Director, and recruiting Board members. Suggestions for shorter minutes and more concise Director's reports are committee recommendations.

Policies and Standards: The committee had a frank and open discussion with the staff Sunday hours committee. The staff committee recommended waiting until the new branches open to have Sunday hours at the branches. The second recommendation was to open one branch as a pilot project.

The Policies and Standards committee recommended opening two branches on Sunday and closing one day during the week. The recommendation for which branches to open is based on distance from the Main Library. Both Parkwood and North Durham are the farthest. Ms. Gaddis will compile budget figures for the six-week rotation. It is important to have in place a means to measure success of the pilot project.

Library staff are recommending a site for the new North Durham Branch on Goodwin Road across from Northern High School. Ted Royall is developing the property and has submitted a verbal proposal to the Library staff. The County Planning staff assisted in identifying the property. Another site was considered, next to Eno Valley Elementary School on Roxboro Rd. Staff are not recommending this site due to concerns about Roxboro Road right-of-way, access and parking in light of a soccer field already on the site and the fact that the schools are asking market price for the property. Commissioner Bowser recommended that the library continue discussion with the Schools. A motion was made, seconded and approved that the Library Director pursue the Goodwin property and also continue to explore the site near Eno Valley School.

Policy Review

Co-sponsored Policy was adopted.

Group Visit Policy was adopted.

Resources Selection was adopted.

Old Business

County Commissioners Meeting- County Manager informed the Director that he planned to delegate to Deputy County Manager Carolyn Titus to deal with the issues raised.

Library Foundation – Lou McCutcheon has agreed to serve as Secretary and Bill Self as Treasurer. Attorney Alan Campbell is the registered agent for the foundation and his office will be the main location. Form 1023 will be filed the week after Christmas and receipt of 501 (C) 3 status should follow. Chair, Judge Whichard, will be calling a meeting in January.

The Sales Tax Proposal to support the bond referendum in November was discussed. The one cent increase in sales tax and an increase in property tax by 3 cents/\$100, would allow the County to fund the capital needs. If the sales tax were not approved then property tax would have to increase by 12 to 15 cents to cover needs.

New Business

At the Public Library Directors Meeting a Library legislative program was adopted for the long session. The three goals are:

- increase state aid from current \$14.9 million to \$25 million, and have the funds recurring
- attain additional funding for NC LIVE
- maintain support for the State Library

Federal Filtering Rider on the Education appropriations bill. Ms. Gaddis said that the details of this rider are not yet known but that it was her understanding that, in order to qualify for federal funds on telecommunications discounts, a library must filter all public Internet workstations.

A motion was made to accept the Food for Fines proposal, an amnesty program for February. The motion was seconded and approved with one abstaining.

Friends of the Library

In the last funding cycle sixteen projects were funded. Friends' members are currently preparing for the March booksale.

Director's Report

Bragtown Branch will change its focus of service once the Gates computers arrive. There will be a reduction in the adult collection and a move toward a computer oriented library.

The new library logo was presented.

To date the Annual Appeal has collected \$8,895 with \$1,600 outstanding business matches. The library received notice that it will receive funds from a lawsuit against Baker and Taylor and plans are to use the money to purchase more nonprint materials.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Dale Gaddis, secretary